

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 3
By Johnson R.

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Walter Gerald "Walt"
Duke of Sweetwater.

WHEREAS, The members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Walter Gerald "Walt" Duke; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duke was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duke had served with acumen and alacrity as a police officer with the Sweetwater City Police Department and the Monroe County Sheriff's Department and as a transfer truck driver for over twenty-five years, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duke joined the United States Marine Corps on June 1, 1962, and valiantly served his country with two tours of duty during the Vietnam War; he later served his fellow veterans and police officers as a member of the Philadelphia American Legion Post # 120, the Sweetwater V.F.W. Gold Star Post 5156, and the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #70; and

WHEREAS, A true fan of a gentleman's game, Mr. Duke was a member of the White Oak Golf Course in Athens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duke was an active and devout member of the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duke was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Walt enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Barbara Hicks Duke for 27 years and was the proud father of son and daughter-in-law, David and Bonnie Duke and daughter and son-in-law, Teresa and Wallace Lawson, and was the loving grandfather of Adam Duke, Tyler Duke, Hannah Duke, Steven Trinidad Duke, Shelby Duke, David Duke, Jr. and Julie Lawson; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duke was preceded in death by his father, Artist Hicks, his mother, Sarah Hicks, and his sister, Martha Jane Parker; and

WHEREAS, Walter Duke leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Walter Duke, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character as a soldier and public servant and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Walter Duke.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.